

## Duxbury Clipper

Thursday, June 8, 1972

**BUSH-BROWN  
EXHIBIT**

A retrospective exhibition of the paintings of Marjorie Conant Bush-Brown will be shown in the Helen Bumpus Gallery of the Duxbury Free Library from June 5 through July 6.

Mrs. Bush-Brown, then Marjorie Conant, was 16 when she entered the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, where she studied for four years. At the suggestion of her teacher, Frank Benson, she went to Paris for two years of study, including travel through France and Italy. After returning to Boston for two more years at the Museum School, she began work in her studio in Boston.

During World War I she enlisted as an occupational therapist in the U.S. Army and was assigned to France in American hospitals there. Upon her return after the Armistice, she shared a New York studio apartment with another artist, Lydia Bush-Brown.

Her marriage in Paris to Harold Bush-Brown in 1924 resulted in a move to Atlanta, Ga., where she was instrumental in forming the Georgia Art



Association, which she served as president of. Her professional work continued through 33 years in the south.

The photographs of a self-portrait reproduced on the exhibition announcements is a canvas painted in the sun-screened porch of the Conant home in Duxbury. Now owned by the Georgia Museum in Athens, Ga., this was her first painting to be accepted by a national jury. It was shown at the Corcoran Biennial Exhibition, Washington, D.C.

Of special interest to Duxbury, is the history of Mrs. Bush-Brown's contributions to the arts in Duxbury. Shortly after the Conant family came

to Duxbury as summer residents, she taught art to classes of young Duxbury children. When the Duxbury Art Association was formed, on the initiative of Charles Bittinger, she became a charter member.

When the Partridge Academy Building burned, Duxbury lost a good gallery where the Art Association had always held its annual shows. It was not until 1965 that plans for an enlargement of the library offered an opportunity for a replacement of the sorely missed academy gallery. Mrs. H.C. Bumpus, Jr., had indicated an interest in doing something special for the library. It was Mrs. Bush-Brown who persuaded her that her gift could best be used to

create a gallery in the library.

Now, after three and a half years of various exhibitions in the Duxbury Free Library's unique Helen Bumpus Gallery, Mrs. Bush-Brown has permitted the gallery to show examples of her 65 years as a dedicated painter.